

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Page 3, please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

-- The object of the present invention is achieved ~~arranging by plugging~~ the connecting element ~~to be plugged~~ into a drilled hole in the piston rod guide and ~~held fixing it~~ therein in a nondetachable fashion. --

Page 3, please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

-- A securing ring which interacts with a ~~supporting face shoulder~~ of the connecting element ~~may be is~~ arranged in a groove in the drilled hole. The ~~envelope body is provided with a filling connector which is preferably introduced into~~ ~~connecting element is fixed in the end-side end~~ weld on the envelope body. Furthermore, the ~~filling connector~~ ~~securing ring~~ is preferably embodied as a ~~clip type connection snap ring~~. --

Page 4, please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

-- A bushing may be arranged in the drilled hole to form the groove in ~~the~~ which the securing ring is received. This allows the groove to be provided using simple fabrication technology. --

Page 6, please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

-- Figs. 3 to 6 show the various stages of a mounting sequence for mounting the envelope 2 and connecting element 10 in the drilled hole or bore 11 of the piston rod guide 6. As shown in Fig. 3, the connecting element 10 has a rear end 25 connected to the envelope 2 and a front end 23 which is insertable into the drilled hole 11. A ~~supporting face shoulder~~ 17 proximate the

front end 23 of the connecting element 10 faces the rear end 25 of the connecting element. Fig. 3 shows the connecting element just prior to the mounting operation. The drilled hole 11 is shown in the piston rod guide 6 and ~~includes~~ is fitted with a bushing 12 for forming a groove 13. A resilient securing ring 14 is inserted in the groove 13 and a sealing ring 15 is arranged at a side of the bushing opposite the groove 13. A diameter of the groove base of the groove 13 is dimensioned such that the securing ring can be resiliently urged radially outward into the groove base. Furthermore, the securing ring 14 is provided with an insertion slope 18 facing the bushing 12, thereby facilitating the insertion of the connecting element 10. --

Page 7, please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

-- As the securing connecting element 10 dips further into the drilled hole 11, the securing ring 14 moves completely into the groove 13, as is apparent from Fig. 5. At this position of the connecting element 10, the seal 15 also assumes its sealing position. --

Page 7, please replace paragraph [0020] with the following amended paragraph:

-- Fig. 6 shows the final mounting state of the securing element 10 in the drilled hole 11. Once the supporting face shoulder 17 of the connecting element passes the securing ring 14, the securing ring 14 is ~~resiliently urged~~ resiles toward its relaxed position as shown in Fig. 6. As a result, the supporting face shoulder 17 engages the securing ring 14 such that the securing element 10 is prevented from withdrawal from the drilled hole 11. The sealing ring 15 and a flange 16 on the connecting element 10 provide the appropriate seal between the equalization space 5 and the drilled hole 11. The connection element 10 connects the interior of the envelope 4 with a flow connection 21 in the piston rod guide, which runs to the atmosphere so that the

envelope body 2 can be appropriately filled, is shown in the lower region of Fig. 6. This filling may be accomplished, for example, as described in U.S. Patent No. 6,648,309. --